



ECEAP

WASHINGTON STATE'S



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
AND
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Preschool for low-income and at-risk children in Washington State

What Does it Take to be Ready to Succeed?

Success in school and life is a paramount goal of families for their children. However, growing up in poverty presents many obstacles. Imagine raising a family of four on just \$18,400 a year, the federal poverty level for 2003. Following the proven example of Head Start as a community-based anti-poverty program, ECEAP partners with children, families, and communities to address barriers to success in a comprehensive, integrated manner by:

- ◆ Delivering specialized early education services through qualified teachers to help children develop cognitive skills, early literacy, and a love for learning.
- ◆ Working strategically to help children build personal resilience and social and emotional competency.
- ◆ Linking each child and family to a “medical home” and seeing that each child receives required immunizations as well as medical and dental screenings to identify any possible special needs.
- ◆ Providing at least one snack and meal per day in the classroom, and increasing the family’s knowledge concerning healthy nutritional practices.
- ◆ Recognizing the parents as the child’s first, and most important, teacher.
- ◆ Actively engaging parents and guardians in their child’s educational process.
- ◆ Fostering the sense of dignity and self-worth of each family and child and promoting respect for diverse family cultures and languages.
- ◆ Empowering families to improve parenting, literacy, job and self-advocacy skills and increasing their knowledge of and access to appropriate resources.
- ◆ Enhancing the ability of each child and family to communicate, to participate in community and school activities, to be economically and socially self-sufficient, and to promote the well-being of family members.

ECEAP: Ready to Succeed!